



For Immediate Release:

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Local Nonprofit Selected to Expand Computer Science Instruction through Partnership with Code.org and Participation in White House Event

EDMOND, October 2, 2016 - The Div has been named a Professional Learning Partner for national computer science non-profit Code.org, and will be the designated provider of Code.org Professional Learning Programs in Oklahoma. Joining a nationwide network of partners to support efforts to expand access to computer science in K-12 schools, The Div will offer quality professional development to educators through local district partnerships with Code.org and act as a regional hub of the global computer science education movement. The partnership will build upon and continue The Div's work in helping the next generation thrive through access to technology education.

"Code.org is proud to partner with The Div to expand access to computer science in Oklahoma at a time when the majority of K-12 schools still don't offer it," says Hadi Partovi, CEO and Founder of Code.org. "By offering Code.org Professional Learning Programs, The Div will give teachers the tools and support they need to introduce foundational 21st-century skills into their classrooms and put all students on a path to success in today's high-tech world."

Board President Cory Miller, who also founded the Oklahoma based technology company iThemes, was invited to speak at a regional partner convening for computer science education hosted by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy on September 26, 2016. Representatives from The Div gathered at the White House with more than 40 other regional organizations from around the country dedicated to preparing computer science teachers for K-12 classrooms and promoting the adoption of high-quality computer science courses. The event was planned to coincide with the start of the academic year in the US.

Topics at the event included: the current state of computer science K-12 education, the importance of establishing regional partners around the nation dedicated to building computer science communities, and why many organizations are dedicated to supporting, advocating for and funding work in this area.

"The Div shares Code.org's belief that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn the critical thinking and problem solving skills that are found through computer science education," said McKalyn Danner, Executive Director of The Div, "This partnership will help to deliver more computer science programs in schools throughout Oklahoma and create new opportunities for collaboration and innovation among educators and industry leaders across the state."

Educators can sign up at code.org/educate to receive updates about the program, or contact The Div directly through their website at thediv.org.

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About The Div, Inc.: The Div is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the next generation thrive through access to technology education.